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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of

Kenichiro NAKAJIMA

Docket No: Q72653

Appln. No.: 10/531,480

Group Art Unit: 1742

Confirmation No.: 9084

Examiner: Lazena Martin

Filed: April 15, 2005

For: ALLOY CONTAINING RARE EARTH ELEMENT, PRODUCTION METHOD THEREOF, MAGNETOSTRICTIVE DEVICE, AND MAGNETIC REFRIGERANT MATERIAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of a Communication from a Foreign Patent Office (European Search Report for corresponding European application no. EP 03 80 9445 dated July 21, 2006) citing the listed documents.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Attorney Docket No. Q72653

on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114. A Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d) is enclosed.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 17, 2006



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.704(d)

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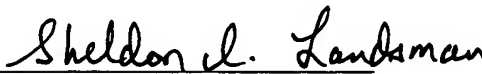
Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	10/531,480
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Confirmation Number	9084
			Filing Date	April 15, 2005
			First Named Inventor	Kenichiro NAKAJIMA
			Art Unit	1742
			Examiner Name	Lazena Martin
			Attorney Docket Number	Q72653
Sheet	1	of		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		CHANG, et al., "Theoretical study of phase forming of NaZn ₁₃ -type rare-earth intermetallics," <i>Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter</i> 15:109-120 (2003) XP002385787.	
		HU, et al., "Magnetic entropy change and its temperature variation in compounds La(Fe _{1-x} CO _x) _{11.2} Si _{1.8} ," <i>Journal of Applied Physics</i> 92:3620-3623 (2002) XP012057320.	
		ZHANG, et al., "Magnetic entropy change in Fe-based compound LaFe _{10.6} Si _{2.4} ," <i>Applied Physics Letters</i> 77:3072-3074 (2000) XP012026561.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.